

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer for providing a community map of a plurality of types of utility resources, said computer comprising:
 - a display;
 - a processor and memory coupled to and operating said display;
 - software associated with said processor, said software containing instructions for displaying a graphic map with references to a plurality of types of utility resources, said software also including instructions that associate utility instance data relating to instances of the utility resources and display the utility instance data on said display.
2. The computer of claim 1 wherein said software also includes instructions that display references to a plurality of types of community resources, said software also including instructions that associate instance data relating to instances of community resources and display the data on said display.
3. The computer of claim 1 wherein said software also includes instructions for searching the utility instance data.
4. The computer of claim 1 wherein said software also includes instructions for accessing operational data relating to a selected utility resource.
5. The computer of claim 4 further comprising a wireless communication device adapted to receive operational information from the selected utility resource.
6. In computer, a method of creating a community map of a plurality of types of utility resources, said method comprising the steps of:
 - associating a plurality of maps of utility resources into a single graphic representation;

associating utility instance data with each utility resource; and
providing a link between positions on the graphic representation and the utility instance data that enables display of the utility instance data when a position on the graphic representation corresponding to a utility resource is activated.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said step of associating a plurality of maps includes a map of community resources, and said method further comprising the step of associating community instance data with each community resource, and providing a link between positions on the graphic representation and the community instance data that enables display of the community instance data when a position on the graphic representation corresponding to the community resource is activated.

8. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of searching the utility instance data.

9. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of accessing operational data relating to a selected utility resource.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising using a wireless communication device to receive operational information from the selected utility resource.

11. A machine-readable program storage device for storing encoded instructions for a method of creating a community map of a plurality of types of utility resources, said method comprising the steps of:

associating a plurality of maps of utility resources into a single graphic representation;

associating utility instance data with each utility resource; and

providing a link between positions on the graphic representation and the utility instance data that enables display of the utility instance data when a position on the graphic representation corresponding to a utility resource is activated.

12. The machine-readable program storage device of claim 11 wherein said method includes a step of associating a plurality of maps includes a map of community resources, and said method further comprises the step of associating community instance data with each community resource, and providing a link between positions on the graphic representation and the community instance data that enables display of the community instance data when a position on the graphic representation corresponding to the community resource is activated.

13. The machine-readable program storage device of claim 11 further comprising the step of searching the utility instance data.

14. The machine-readable program storage device of claim 11 wherein said method further comprises the step of accessing operational data relating to a selected utility resource.

15. The machine-readable program storage device of claim 14 wherein said method further comprises using a wireless communication device to receive operational information from the selected utility resource.